

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: TURTLE CREEK WIND FARM LLC	DOCKET NO. E-22276
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ORDER SETTING DATE FOR INFORMATIONAL MEETING

(Issued October 18, 2016)

On October 7, 2016, Turtle Creek Wind Farm LLC (Turtle Creek) filed a letter with the Utilities Board (Board) requesting that the Board set the date and time for an informational meeting concerning Turtle Creek's proposal to construct a transmission line in Mitchell County, Iowa. According to Turtle Creek, the proposed line would connect a new project substation at the Turtle Creek location with the existing Pioneer Prairie Wind Farm substation. Turtle Creek further states that it held an informational meeting on April 29, 2016, to discuss its initial proposed route for this transmission line. As then proposed, the project would consist of approximately 12.1 miles of transmission line capable of operating at a maximum voltage of 345kV. Following subsequent discussions with potentially-affected landowners, Turtle Creek modified the proposed route for the transmission line, and therefore now requests an additional informational meeting to present the new proposed route to interested parties and potentially-affected landowners.

Pursuant to Iowa Code § 478.2 and 199 IAC 11.4, where a proposed new transmission line capable of operating at 69 kV or more would extend for at least one mile across privately owned real property, a prospective petitioner for an electric transmission franchise is required to hold an informational meeting to provide information to the public and to persons with interests in real property that may be affected by the project.

Turtle Creek implies in its letter that the proposed transmission line would involve more than one mile of private right-of-way and that it would be located entirely within Mitchell County, Iowa. It will therefore be necessary to hold a public informational meeting in Mitchell County. Turtle Creek proposes that the informational meeting be set for November 17, 2016, and that it be held at the Mitchell County Conservation Center, 1879-3 IA-9 (Hwy 9), Osage, Iowa 50461. Turtle Creek does not propose a time for the meeting to begin.

Pursuant to Iowa Code § 478.2(2)(a), the Board, counsel to the Board, or a presiding officer designated by the Board, shall serve as presiding officer at the informational meeting and shall present an agenda for it. The Board has reviewed the date proposed for the informational meeting and has determined that the Board is not available on November 17, 2016. The Board has contacted Turtle Creek and has reached an agreement for an informational meeting on December 6, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. The proposed location is acceptable on the understanding that it is reasonably accessible to all persons that may be affected by the franchise (Iowa Code

§ 478.2(2)(b)); if that should not be the case, Turtle Creek shall arrange for another venue and shall notify the Board immediately.

Turtle Creek shall give notice of the informational meeting in compliance with 199 IAC 11.5, and shall file with the Board a copy of the meeting notice that is required by 199 IAC 11.5(1)(b) at the time that it mails such notice.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

An informational meeting in Docket No. E-22276 is scheduled for December 6, 2016, at 5:30 p.m., to be held at the Mitchell County Conservation Center, 1879-3 IA-9 (Hwy 9), Osage, Iowa 50461.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Geri D. Huser

/s/ Elizabeth S. Jacobs

ATTEST:

/s/ Trisha M. Quijano
Executive Secretary, Designee

/s/ Nick Wagner

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 18th day of October 2016.